

Ten-Month Vacancy

Amory Reportedly to Be Appointed to Tariff Post

Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, April 4 — President Johnson will appoint Robert Amory Jr. to the U. S. Tariff Commission, filling a 10-month-long vacancy on the six-member panel, usually reliable sources said this weekend.

Mr. Amory is at present chief of the International Division of the Bureau of the Budget, a post he has held since April 1962. His duties in the Budget Bureau have included work with the Tariff Commission.

If he is named to the commission, Mr. Amory will be the third consecutive appointee having a Harvard Business School background. James Culliton and Dann Fenn were both associated with the Harvard School and Mr. Amory was a professor there of business law and accounting in the late 40's. He earned a law degree at Harvard in 1938.

Experience with CIA

Before joining the Budget Bureau, Mr. Amory spent 10 years in the Central Intelligence Agency. From 1953 to 1962, he was department director of intelligence and an adviser on the National Security Council Planning Board.

The \$26,000-a-year post he is reported to be filling has been open since last June, when President Johnson declined to renew the appointment of Walter Schreiber, a Republic of conservative trade view. The decision on Mr. Schreiber's replacement was held up until after the November elections and since then the Administration has continued to take its time in making a choice.

Over the past half-year, there have been reports that a woman

would be selected for the sixth seat on the commission. But

the chances of this happening appear to be slim. Until recently, the front-runner for the commission post was former Congressman Fred Schwengel, an Iowa Republican.

The commission post must be filled by either a Republican or independent, since the Democrats already have their full quota of men on the tariff panel.

The Administration is seen likely to move soon on filling Mr. Schreiber's vacancy, since the six-year term of another commissioner — Joseph Talbot, also a Republican — is due to expire in June. If the President failed to reappoint Mr. Talbot,

the commission would be at only two-thirds strength.

The betting is, however, that Mr. Talbot — a popular and respected commissioner — will be given another six years.

Mr. Amory's appointment would help correct what some commission observers criticize as tendency of the tariff panel recently to emphasize economics and not enough legal expertise. At one time, the commission was well staffed with lawyer members, today it is dominated by men having economic background.

Mr. Amory's joining the tariff panel could exercise some significance in future commission decisions. While the commission seems pretty much in accord on interpreting the 1962 Trade Act, particularly in regard to adjustment help for industry, firms and workers, there have been distinct variations of opinion among its members on anti-dumping matters. It is in this area where the new commissioner might prove to be a pivotal force.

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